

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1320  
By Langster

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Reverend Herbert T. Brown of Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to recognize those members of the cloth whose devout service to God and their respective communities has instilled in others the faith to follow His spiritual path; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Herbert T. Brown is one such distinguished citizen who radiates God's love and evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; through his great capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, he has enriched the lives of the people in his congregation and his community for many years as the Pastor of Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, born August 14, 1948, in Nashville, Reverend Brown is the son of Thomas and Clara Brown and the younger brother of Mary Louise and Thomas; he graduated from Pearl High School after attending Head Elementary School and Washington Middle School and developed a love of the Lord and his Christian family at an early age; and

WHEREAS, at age twelve, he accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior and was baptized by his mentor, Reverend Frank Mason Spence; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, he answered the call of duty to his country as one of the many patriots who protected and ensured the freedom of this nation and our world, serving gallantly in the United States Marine Corps for two years, including thirteen months in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, always seeking to further his own knowledge so that he might better serve the Kingdom, he pursued studies at the American Bible College in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Brown served as Assistant Minister at Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church until the retirement of Rev. Spence at which time he became the congregation's Pastor on the fourth Sunday of 1988; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Rev. Brown, the congregation of Greater St. John has experienced significant growth, both physically and spiritually; during Rev. Brown's pastorate, a new building has been constructed to better meet the needs of the congregation, which has grown from 400 members to approximately 1500 members; and

WHEREAS, the Church currently reaches out to the community through the Music Council, GSJ Van Ministry, Youth Ministry, Children's Church, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Audio/Video Ministry, Church Library, Bookstore, Nursery Ministry, Hospitality/Kitchen Ministry, Health Ministry, Associate Minister's Ministry, GSJ Outreach Ministry, and participation in the Nashville area Habitat for Humanity; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of the community, Rev. Brown holds membership in such laudable organizations as the Stones River Association and the Ministers Alliance Conference, in which he serves as the Sunday School Instructor; he also lends his support to the Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency's Youth and Senior Programs and participates in the Scholarship Program and the 90+ Program Awards and Luncheon presentations; and

WHEREAS, because of his dedication to the Lord's work and his desire to better his community, Rev. Brown has received numerous accolades, including the 2001 Community Service Award presented by the J. A. Henry Consistory #48, the 2003 Pastor of the Year award presented by WQQK FM "92Q," the 2003 Outstanding Community Leadership Award from the Greater Nashville Black Chamber of Commerce, and many other awards from the City of Nashville and the State; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brown is blessed with a great and loving heart for God's work and a magnetic personality, and his congregation is still benefiting from his wisdom and love more than sixteen years after he first stood at the pulpit as their Pastor; and

WHEREAS, his professional and civic accomplishments aside, Reverend Brown is committed to the highest ideals of family values; he is most grateful for the tremendous love and companionship that he shares with his beloved wife Phyllis, whom he joined in holy matrimony

in October 1967, and he is the devoted father of two children, Reggie and Karen, and the proud grandfather of two grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Brown's outstanding career as a dynamic and compassionate Pastor and an active civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on God's grace, his dedication to the time-honored values of hard work and common sense, and his uncommon ability to relate to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, an unwavering commitment to the work of his Creator and Savior, the betterment of the lives of his congregation, and the welfare of all of humanity are hallmarks of the life and career of Reverend Brown; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that a man of Reverend Herbert T. Brown's stature walks among us, and it is important that we honor him for his strong character and selfless good works, and also recognize him for his life of purpose and commitment to God; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Reverend Herbert T. Brown of Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church, reflecting fondly upon his devoted service to his congregation and the people of Tennessee, and we wish him much continued success and happiness in his walk with the Lord.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.